

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A catheter clamp comprising:

a body having a first portion, a second portion, and a hinge connecting the first portion and the second portion, such that the first portion is disposable to face toward the second portion when the first portion is pivoted about the hinge toward the second portion, wherein the first portion includes a tab and wherein the second portion includes a locking member for releasably locking the tab to the second portion.
2. The catheter clamp according to claim 1, wherein the second portion further comprises a recessed area disposed between the hinge and the locking means, wherein the recessed area is sized to accept at least one catheter.
3. The catheter clamp according to claim 2, wherein the at least one catheter comprises at least two catheters.
4. The catheter clamp according to claim 1, wherein the first portion further comprises a recessed area disposed between the hinge and the tab, wherein the recessed area is sized to accept at least one catheter.
5. The catheter clamp according to claim 4, further comprising at least one rib extending from the recessed area.
6. The catheter clamp according to claim 1, wherein the locking member comprises a guide disposed along a first side of the second portion and a cantilevered portion extending from a second side of the second portion, juxtaposed from the guide, wherein the cantilevered portion comprises an extension extending toward the guide.

7. The catheter clamp according to claim 6, wherein the guide comprises a beveled face disposed to guide the tab toward the cantilevered portion.
8. The catheter clamp according to claim 6, wherein the cantilevered portion comprises a beveled face disposed to guide the tab toward the guide.
9. The catheter clamp according to claim 1, wherein the tab further comprises a raised portion extending therefrom, such that, when the first portion is disposed toward the second portion, the raised portion retains at least a portion of the tab away from the second portion.
10. The catheter clamp according to claim 1, wherein the clamp is constructed from polypropylene.
11. The catheter clamp according to claim 1, wherein the clamp is of unitary construction.
12. A catheter clamp comprising:
 - a body having:
 - a first portion having a first top face sized to retain at least one catheter lumen thereon;
 - a second portion having a second top face sized to retain at least one catheter lumen thereon;
 - a hinge connecting the first portion and the second portion, such that the first portion is disposable to face toward the second portion when the first portion is pivoted about the hinge toward the second portion and such that the at least one catheter lumen is retainable between the first and second top faces; and
 - means for releasably locking a free end of the first portion to the second portion.

13. The catheter clamp according to claim 12, wherein the means for releasably connecting the free end of the first portion to second portion comprises the first portion having a slot and second portion having a tab, wherein the tab is positioned to be releasably inserted into the slot.

14. The catheter clamp according to claim 13, wherein the second portion comprises a gripping ring disposed distal from the hinge.

15. The catheter clamp according to claim 14, wherein the second portion further comprises a narrowed neck disposed between the gripping ring and the tab.

16. The catheter clamp according to claim 13, wherein at least one of the first and second top faces comprises at least one rib extending therefrom.

17. A method of releasably clamping a catheter assembly comprising:

inserting a distal end of a first catheter lumen into a patient at an insertion site;
releasably clamping the first catheter lumen proximate to the insertion site;
subcutaneously tunneling a proximal end of the first lumen;
installing a locking device on the proximal ends the first catheter lumen; and
releasing the catheter clamp.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein the first catheter comprises a first catheter and a second catheter.

19. The method according to claim 17, further comprising, after installing the catheter locking device, verifying whether the clamp moved relative to the insertion site.

20. The method according to claim 19, further comprising, after verifying whether the clamp moved relative to the insertion site, readjusting the clamp to its previous position proximate to the insertion site.

21. The method according to claim 17, wherein releasably clamping the first catheter comprises occluding the first catheter.

22. A method of relocating a catheter insertion distance in a patient comprising:

inserting a distal end of a first catheter lumen into a patient;

inserting a distal end of a second catheter lumen into the patient proximal to the first catheter lumen;

releasably clamping the first and second catheter lumens at a predetermined location with a catheter clamp;

subcutaneously tunneling a proximal end of each of the first and second catheter lumens;

determining whether the distal ends of the first and second catheter lumens have been dislodged by comparing the location of the catheter clamp to the predetermined location;

moving the catheter clamp with the first and second catheter lumens held therein to the predetermined position; and

releasing the catheter clamp.

23. The method according to claim 22, further comprising, prior to releasing the catheter clamp, installing catheter locking devices on the proximal ends of each of the first and second catheter lumens.

24. The method according to claim 22, wherein releasably clamping the first and second catheters comprise occluding the first and second catheters.